

Response to Election/Restriction and Remarks

Claims 41-47 have been canceled without prejudice. New claims 48-59 have been added. Claims 1-40 and 48-59 are currently pending.

Applicant hereby elects to prosecute Group I, claims 1-40, drawn to methods.

Applicant also respectfully traverses and requests that the Examiner reconsider the species election/restriction requirement in this case. The MPEP at section 803 states that "If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions." Applicant respectfully submits that the examination of claims 1-40 can be made without serious burden.

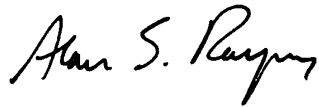
Applicant provisionally elects species I. Applicant believes that at least claims 1-15 and 17-40 read on species I. Applicant also believes that claims 1-15 and 17-40 are generic to at least species I and II, and claims 27-31 are generic to species I, II and III. Applicant also notes that claim 16 depends from independent claim 14.

Applicant has canceled claims 41-47 without prejudice to further prosecute these claims if desired. Applicant has added new claims 48-59. Support for these claims may be found throughout the specification. It is believed that no new matter has been entered. It is believed that at least claims 48-52, 54-57 and 59 read on species I. Applicant also believes that claims 48-52, 54-57 and 60 are generic to at least species I and II. Applicant also notes that claim 53 depends from claim 52, which depends from claim 48, which depends from independent claim 32. In addition, claim 58 depends from independent claim 55.

Reconsideration of the species election/restriction requirement and examination of this application are respectfully requested. Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner would like to discuss this case with

applicant, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at telephone number (310) 871-8448.

Respectfully submitted,



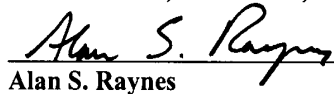
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Dated: July 14, 2003

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450, on July 14, 2003.


Alan S. Raynes

July 14, 2003
Date